THE GENESEE FARMER.

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THE GENESEE FARMER
AND GARDENER'S JOURNAL.
Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic Economy, &c. &c.

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☞ The proprietors have undertaken the publication with the determination of making it permanent: they would therefore suggest to all those who would wish to see the FARMER become a durable and useful paper, the propriety of not only interesting themselves in its circulation, but also of contributing to its columns.

☞ Those gentlemen to whom we have taken the liberty to forward this number, if they shall think favorably of the undertaking, and of the merits of the work, will oblige us by forwarding us their names, and those of any friends to whom such a paper as this would be desirable. As it is of its kind *unique* in this state, and intended for general circulation, we expect to look abroad for a great part of our patronage.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

SPONTANEOUS VEGETATION.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Your correspondent, A. B. in the first number of the Farmer, asks whether the plants which seem mysteriously to spring up in newly cleared lands, are spontaneous productions, or whether they are the offspring of former plants.

I believe it is now a universally received opinion, among physiologists, that neither plants nor animals are of spontaneous production, but that they owe their being, in all cases, to parents of their kind. To account then for the seeming phenomena detailed by A. B. it is necessary to show, that seeds may have been deposited at a recent or remote period; that their vitality may have remained long dormant without having become extinct; and that the effects of fire, or the operations of tillage, may be sufficient to vivify and call into action the living principle.

Seeds may have been deposited by waters, beyond the reach of agents indispensable to germination; or they may have have been brought by winds, or scattered by the beasts of the forest, or the fowls of the air. Rice has been taken from the crops of pigeons, which must have been brought some hundreds of miles. Nor is the vitality of many seeds, particularly those covered with a hard shell, like those of most small fruits, impaired by this method of conveyance. On the contrary it is common in some countries, to have haws and other hard seeds pass through the stomachs of turkeys, and even of cows, to facilitate the germinating process.

But how comes it that those seeds lay so long dormant, and neither grow nor rot? Because seeds germinate only under certain conditions, which may never all have co-operated, until the forest was felled, or until the fire, the plough, or the spade, had facilitated their joint and simultaneous operation. Those conditions of germination are, the absence of light, and the presence of heat, moisture, and atmospheric air. Seeds have been known to retain their vitality for a century, when kept dry, and often instances are narrated, of other seeds having lain, dormant and sound, forty years and more, in the earth, and yet to have grown when brought by the plough, within the influence of the sun and atmosphere: For heat, moisture and oxygen, are as indipensable to the process of decomposition as they are to the process of germination. J. BUEL.

Albany, Jan. 17, 1831.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

"THE LADY'S RECREATION."

I have lately been amused with an old book on gardening, called *The Lady's Recreation*, written by *Charles Evelyn*, Esq. and *printed* nearly 120 years ago. In many places, the orthography differs from that now in use; and here is also a quaintness of expression, which often reminds us that we have fallen on other times.

I have suspected that the doctrine of the influence of the moon on the growth of plants, on manures, &c. was introduced by artful persons to stimulate their laborers; but it may be a remnant of Astrology. Our author appears to have been embued with these notions, which, long after, were countenanced by some men of education, but which are now chiefly confined to the ignorant. I offer a few extracts on this subject; some other extracts for their singularity; and some that may be useful to the practical gardener.

"About the latter end of February, graff apples, pears, &c. in the clift, and so continue till the end of March, when the sap rises briskly; the new moon is the best time."!

"Gather herbs in the full of the moon! dry them in the shade. *shewing them to the sun a little* only to keep them from being musty."

"Sow winter herbs in the new of the moon."!

"Gather olitory seeds, clipping the herbs within one handful of the ground before the full of the moon."!

[In spring] "cover tender flowers and evergreens with mats or canvass from the farwel frosts and easterly winds."

"Sick trees, such as orange trees, &c. impaired by removing, and other accidents, are many times recovered by a milk-diet as Mr. [John] Evelyn calls it; that is diluting with a portion of water discreetly administered; sometimes also by plunging them in the hot beds, or by letting the tree down into a pit of 4 or 5 feet in depth, covering the head & the rest of the tree."!

"Continue to cleanse all parts of your garden, and let not your hough be idle when the weeds begin to peep."

"*Auriculas* or *bears'-ears* are the most beautiful ornaments of the spring; and for their size are the greatest rarities in *Flora*'s cabinet. I am informed that the *double striped crimson and white*, and the *large double purple and yellow* have been sold from five to twenty pounds each plant. These flowers delight in *a rich soil, well shaded*, but *by no means under trees.*"

"The *lilly* is a flower esteem'd in the earliest times: about the time of our Saviour it was in great reputation, no flower being then more in request, in the choicest gardens, except the Rose: and there is no flower of that transcendent whiteness as the lilly."

"The *Peony* is a common flower, but yields the fairest and most double blossom of any, and is very becoming in your flower pots or chimnies. It contains two sexes, male and female; the male is single, and the flower commonly of a purple red, and are but of one sort; but the females are many, some single, and great numbers double."

"The *larks-heel* or *larks-spur*———are very pretty flowers."

"The *sun-flower* grows very tall and therefore is most fit for pots."!

The *Crown Imperial*—a most stately and graceful plant, bearing a flower like unto the lilly; and the double sort, particularly the orange colour'd, and yellow, shew finely intermixed, in the middle of a flower pot."

"The sensible [sensitive] plant has its name from the impression the touching of it makes, for you no sooner touch the leaf, but it instantly shrinks up together, and in a small space of time afterwards dilates itself again. The *humble plant* [*Mimosa pudica*] so called from prostrating itself on the ground so soon as touched, tho' in a short time it elevates itself again. And the *Noli me tangere* [*Impatiens balsamina*] which being touched, and the pods, when they are gross and not fully ripe, being taken between your fingers, will give a sudden snap, and fly in pieces, to the great surprize of the person molesting it."!

"If you have at any time occasion to remove flowers to any distant place or country, rub them over with honey, and wrap them up in moss; it will effectually secure them, being packed up in papers free from the wet."

"The *Syringa Pipe-tree* or *Lilack*, bears a blossom not much unlike the Persian Jessamine. It flowers in April and May, and yields plenty of suckers; but it is a nice plant, and requires the skill of a curious artist, for its management."!

"The double blossom'd *Pomegranate-tree* is esteemed the most excellent of all flowering trees; it merits the best place in your garden, and requires a warm south wall for its propagation, *being very tender whilst young, but afterwards becomes very hardy.* [He recommends to "enrich the soil with well-consumed hog's-dung.] They flower in August and September; and the blossoms for fairness and beauty, exceed all other that are born by trees."

"The Mezerion——is a plant of the most hardy nature, and is valued for sending forth its pleasant flowers in the severest season of the year. [Not till spring in this country.]—Tho' cold will not injure this shrub, yet it is very nice in the choice of its ground; the soil ought not to be neither light nor very moist: and for weather, *heat only is pernicious to it.*" I lost a fine plant of this kind last summer by leaving it exposed to the sun. It is a native Britain; and like the *daisy*, and the *Jacob's ladder*, also from that cool climate, requires to be shaded.

"*Periploca* is a *wood-bind* that twists itself about a pole like unto the hop. It annually puts forth small blue blossoms."

"There's your Rosemary gilded with yellow, and a sort of it variegated with white, very delightful to the eye, which are to be preserved under warm walls."

"Eugh [yew] trees being clipt, and reduced to regular forms (the most beautiful whereof, are the round and square pyramid) make the most ornamental trees you can have in your garden."

Many of these whims for distorting Nature have happily passed away; yet we observe a remnant in the practice of exposing to the height of six or eight feet, the dead bark of ornamental trees. Let their rough trunks be clothed nearly to the ground with slender branches and green leaves, for on these the eye rests with most pleasure. D. T.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

Mendon, Jan. 21, 1831.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I have seen one number of your paper, which you propose to devote to agriculture, horticulture, and domestic economy, &c. Now if you stick to your text, I shall become one of your subscribers. You must know, Messrs. Editors, that this matter of domestic economy is of some importance to me, and not only to me, but to our country. It appears that the *Old Genesee* country, after which you have named your paper, contains about 400,000 inhabitants, and I think it safe to say 200,000 of these are females, as people seem disposed to sort off about half and half. We may calculate that for some years past about one quarter of the females have been wearing Leghorn bonnets, of an average price of eight dollars, the average duration of which we will suppose to be eight years. Now this comes within my arithmetic, and amounts to just $50,000 yearly. This sum has been sent

to a foreign country. By introducing domestic economy, last year, in the shape of Navarinos, I think this sum has been saved within our country. Now if you will persuade the ladies to continue to wear domestic bonnets, I will comply with the terms of your prospectus, and send you $2 in advance. R. A.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

Ontario, Jan. 25th, 1831.

To the Editors of the Genesee Farmer

As I have been induced by the great demand for sheep, during the ninety days past, to part with my flock, with a view of changing the breed, I would make the following inquiries through your paper.

What breed of sheep are the most profitable at this time for this section of country?

Where can they be procured?

If any of your readers or correspondents will do me the favor to answer the above questions, they will confer a favour on

T. CONWAY.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

The ideas of U. are more mathematical than his language. Instead of "*tetragon*" write *tetrahedron*, and we will admit the correctness of his solution. V.

SELECTIONS.

MICHAEL FLOY,

V. P. N. Y. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This excellent Botanist and Horticulturist, is scarcely known to the farmers of Old Genesee although he certainly ranks among the first in the United States. We introduce him to our readers, as a nursery-man in whose judgment and correctness, in selecting valuable varieties of fruit, they may place the fullest confidence.

From the New York Farmer.

A DESCRIPTION OF TREES AND SHRUBS, PRODUCING A SUCCESSION OF FLOWERS FROM SPRING TO AUTUMN.

By Michael Floy, Vice Pres't of the N. Y. H. Society.

MR. EDITOR—A correspondent in your last number, page 150, under the signature of Phlox, requesting a selection of flowering plants and shrubs to ornament a cottage, and flowering from spring to autumn, observes that he has searched in vain for information in many gardening books. As this gentleman, with many others, may not know what things to plant out for ornamenting their places, I subjoin a list of trees and shrubs necessary for his purpose, all of which may be obtained of the nursery-men here at reasonable rates—that is, good large flowering trees and shrubs, at from 50 cents to 1 doll. each, or it may be, by the hundred, at less prices. The mode of culture is very simple, the ground should be well dug with some rotten manure, and if planted out at any time from October to December, or early in March to the middle of April, no danger may be apprehended of their success. They should be kept hoed and clean during the summer.

The following trees for *oustide plantings* for Lawns, Clumps, or Avenues, are all hardy and cheap, at the rates above stated.

Alianthus glandulosa, Chinese Heaven-tree, a very swift growing tree, remarkable for its long pinnated leaves, and is altogether a straight beautiful and majestic tree, very hardy, although not long known, it is getting to be a favourite, and will probably be universally planted.

Æsculus, or Horse Chesnut. The common European Horse Chesnut, is a beautiful tree, particularly when in full bloom; it is, however, best calculated for open places, where it shows itself to the best advantage; there are, however, some very handsome species, native of this country, the most remarkable and beautiful of which, is the Dwarf long spiked *Æsculus macrostachya*. The tree seldom exceeds 6 feet in height, and may more properly be termed a shrub; the spikes of flowers are commonly eighteen inches long, white, and very handsome.

Acer, or Maple. The sugar maple is a very clean growing tree, the foilage light, and very handsome—from this tree, quantities of maple sugar is made in the country; the *scarlet flowering maple* is also very beautiful, and the flowers appear very early.

Acer psuedo platanus, or Sycamore tree, is also a very handsome European tree, the leaves are larger every way than the sugar maple.

Broussenettia, or Paper Mulberry, makes a good shade; is very hardy, and easily cultivated.

Balsam tree, Balsam Poplar, or *Tacmahac*, is a remarkable fast growing tree, gives a fine shade, and yields a rich balsamic fragrance, particularly after a shower of rain; the balsam which proceeds from the buds, is of a healing nature for cuts or wounds.

Catalpa syringæfolia tree, has very large leaves, and is well calculated for a shade, and the large bunches of flowers which it produces, gives it a most splendid appearance.

Cerasus, or double flowering cherry, of which there are two varieties: one is called the French, and the other the English double flowering cherry; the English comes into flowering nearly a month after the former kind—when in full bloom, makes a very splendid appearance, not unlike large clusters of White Roses. They produce no fruit, but the tree is very handsome.

Cuypressus disticha, or Deciduous Cypress, and the *C. thyoides*, the former a native of the Southern states, the latter of the middle states, both, however, are quite hardy, and make a handsome appearance.

Fagus, or Beach: a few of these in particular situations, have a good effect.

Fraxinus, or Ash. One European and two or three American kinds mixed in, to diversify the scene and give effect, with trees of a different habit and foliage, is very pleasing.

Gleditschia triacanthos,—Honey locust, or three thorn Acacia. It makes a handsome stately tree—the foliage is handsome, but the dreadful long tripple thorns with which the tree is armed, give it a forbidding aspect.—Trees of this kind are often used for hedges, and if planted thick, they soon make an impenetrable fence, against man and beast, but must be kept cut down to 4 or 5 feet every season, or the hedge would soon be spoiled.—Some of them would take the lead, & entirely destroy the rest.

Larix, or Larch, is a beautiful tree of the Pinus kind, yet drops its leaves in winter—they look beautiful in the spring and during the summer.

Liriodendron, Tulip tree, White wood, by some called Poplar, is a noble and majestic tree, the flowers which it produces in June are much of a magnolia appearance, to which it seems nearly related. The leaves are very singular as if cut off at the end. The tree is very symmetrical.

Magnolia tripetala, or umbrella tree, is very majestic, the leaves very large, giving a fine shade, the flowers are also large and white.—It should be planted in clumps, or for the back ground of shrubbery.

Magnolia acuminata, or Cucumber tree, has blue flowers, the tree is large, and has much the habit of the *liriodendron*.

Magnolia glauca, a small sweet scented magnolia, is best calculated for the centre row of the shrubbery, or for clumps. This a native of our country, from Jersey, and Carolina, and is perhaps the prettiest shrub in the world, all things considered. It ought to be planted in every garden and shrubbery. It yields its fragrant blossoms from May to September.

Platanus occidentalis, Button-ball, by some called Sycamore, is a large and majestic tree, calculated for avenues or large lawns, or for ornamental plantations. It is, however, too stiff and rigid, having a degree of formality, and spreads its branches too much for street planting.

Robinia pseudo acacia, or Locust tree. The foliage is light, feathery, and of a fine green; the racimes of flowers are white, and is one of our most beautiful as well as most useful trees. Unfortunately it is in most places attacked by a borer or worm, which causes the branches to break off. Where it is free from this enemy, it is a most desirable ornamental tree.

Umlás, or Elm, three kinds, the European Elm, the American White Elm, and the American Slippery Elm, are all desirable to form a good landscape for lawns or avenues, &c.

Tilia Americana, the American Lindin, and the *Tilia Europea*, are both beautiful trees, well calculated for streets or lawns—the trees grow handsome, and when in flower, the honey bees are much attracted to its sweet honey-like perfume.

Salyx Babylonica, or weeping willow, in proper situations, is a most beautiful tree, and from its peculiar mode of growth, very desirable. It makes a fine screen shade.

[To be continued.]

From the Ploughboy, vol. 1.

GEOLOGY APPLIED TO PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE. NO. 1.

The course of lectures, given last winter at the Capitol, before members of the legislature and others, on Geology and Chemistry, as applicable to agriculture, have excited much inquiry in various parts of the state. "What has geology to do with agriculture?" is the most common inquiry. Having attended that course of lectures, I can answer the enquiry as far as a concise history of the geological part of it will go.

At the commencement of that part of the course, large specimens of all the rock strata, constituting the exterior part of the earth, as far as human research has hitherto penetrated, were laid on the table before us. They were arranged from left to right according to the order in which they are actually found in the earth; beginning with granite, (the lowest known stratum) and ending in the highest of the secondary formation. A great number of facts were adduced to demonstrate that such was the true order of the strata.

A kind of geological alphabet was then presented to us, consisting of specimens of all homogeneous minerals constituting the rock strata. Their mode of aggregation was pointed out and illustrated by specimens; so that we were soon enabled to decide the character of any rock, and to locate it in the system by a mere hand specimen.

By contemplating the regular series of rock strata, we were enabled to locate preceding and succeeding rocks, by inspecting an intermediate one. For example, when we examine the rock of argillaceous slate along the bed of the river in the vicinity of Albany, we infer that the next rock to the east, or beneath it, must be primitive limestone, and the next to the west, or above it, must be graywacke. The same conclusions we were enabled to form respecting all the strata in the series.

We were next taught by specimens and experiments, that all earthly soils consist of minute fragments of dissolved or disintegrated rocks. This being, to us, a new fact, most of us were inclined to doubt. But we were soon compelled to resign our objections, after inspecting numerous specimens of earthy soils under the magnifier. We then, to our surprise, perceived that the finest soil was made up of minute pieces of rocks; and though finely pulverized, each particle was still a little rock. Let it be understood, that it is the *earthy* part only to which I now allude.—The decomposed animal and vegetable matter mixed in soils, is here left out of view.

If earthy soils are actually the debris of rock strata, the quality of soils must depend on the constituents of the rocks, out of which they

were formed. Therefore, the basis rock of any district, which is now mouldering away, and the last superimposed rock which has just passed away, must give character to the present soil. By studying rock strata then, we are enabled to judge correctly respecting the causes of the defects and excellencies in soils, so far as it depends on the earthy part. The agriculturist, who shall have thus obtained a clear view of the substantial part of his soil, will be enabled to prescribe the true method for correcting its defects, and for perpetuating the excellencies of his soil.

I might fill many sheets with facts, now well established, in proof of the great advantages which geology throws into the hands of the agriculturist. But I intended this outline as an introductory sketch, for the advantage of those only who have not studied the generalization of rocks, nor minutely inspected their debris. A.

CARE OF IMPLEMENTS.

Every careful farmer will lay it down as a rule, frequently to inspect all his implements; and when any part of them is observed in the least damaged, or in danger of giving way, he will take care immediately to have it repaired. An implement, also, that is not longer wanted during the season, should be carefully laid up; but before it is put aside, it ought to be well cleaned, and rendered perfectly dry, oiled or painted, if made of iron, and kept so as to be ready for use, when wanted. No circumstance marks more the character of an attentive husbandman, than this one. Upon every farm, likewise, there ought to be one or more places, properly constructed for holding the larger implements: and some secure place allotted for containing the smaller tools. Where machines are necesarily exposed in the field a great part of the season, they require to be newly painted, at least every second year.—The invention of any useful implement, by which the labors of agriculture can be brought to a higher degree of perfection, and the expense of cultivation at the same time diminished, must prove of the most essential service to the farmer. All such inventions ought to be encouraged.—*J. Sinclair.*

CURIOUS EXPERIMENTS ON THE RETARDATION AND MULTIPLICATION OF WHEAT.

On the 8th of August 1824, a single plant of wheat was taken, which had been sown in the June preceding, and divided into 18 parts, and put into the ground, where it remained till the latter end of September, when they were again taken up and subdivided into 67 parts of roots, all of which were carefully transplanted, and allowed to remain till the end of March following, when they were a third time taken up and separated into 490 parts, and again replaced in the earth, and allowed to perfect themselves and ripen, when the little harvest was reaped. The one single grain of wheat, by this process, was found to have produced 21,109 ears, containing 570,000 grains, measuring 3 pecks and 3 quarts. The multiplication of wheat by off-setts and suckers at the collar of the root, is well known, and fields that are apparently bare in the spring, frequently increase by this mean to a very handsome crop, and the retarding of vegetation can be carried to almost any extent, by constant transplanting. Flowering plants and shrubs, by this means, may have their periods materially changed, particularly the herbaceous annuals.

Hamp. Essays.

THE FARMER'S CREED.

BY SIR JOHN SINCLAIR.

Let this be the farmer's creed,
Of stock secure the choicest breed,
In peace and plenty let them feed,
Your land sow with the best of seed,
Let it not dung nor dressing need,
Inclose and drain it with all speed,
And you will soon be rich indeed.

THE SEASON.

Where is the industrious Farmer who cannot find employment enough to occupy his time, during these short, cold, winter days?—He should indeed now find leisure enough from the usual portion of time devoted wholly to labor in other seasons, to attend to those essential attainments—the improvement of his mind, and the education of his children. Then the length of winter will not be found injurious to the farming interest

The Farmer's Chronicle remarks, in favour of family industry, that one piece of domestic manufacture, will go farther to establish the reputation of a daughter, than a whole winter's frolicking.

The cultivator who is not in love with idleness, need not be inactive even at this season of the year: and by driving now, may escape being driven at some future period. Is the cutting, splitting and piling of wood completed? Have the implements of husbandry been overhauled, repaired, and in order. Threshing, dressing flax, & many other essential duties should be suggested to fill up every moment of otherwise leisure time.—*L. I. Farmer.*

FODDERING OF CATTLE.

When cattle have been accustomed to fodder, they will not make shift with the same food that would have served them, if they had not been brought to the use of this. Therefore it is essential to keep them from it as long as can be done without absolute damage to them; and when it is first given them, to let them only feed partly on that.

When the cattle find great scarcity abroad, if they be offered some of the most indifferent hay, they will feed gladly upon it; but if the farmer begins with the best, they will not readily touch this afterwards. Let it be given a little at a time only, and that when they are sharply hungered. For if he give them a surfeit of it they never will touch it afterwards, even when they are hungry.

Cows will eat straw freely, and thrive very well upon it, unless they be accustomed to hay; but in that case they will refuse the very best straw afterwards; and the farmer must submit to feed them in this expensive manner, or to starve them. He must not expect cows to eat after one another, or that one creature which chews the cud, will eat what another has left; but the leavings are not wasted, for though these will not eat them, the other kinds will. A great deal of caution must be used in regard to the time of turning cattle out of the yard where they have been foddered, into grass; for if there be not a sufficient growth for their support, they will decline very soon. It is a common error to turn them out too early.

PECULIAR CULTIVATION OF POTATOES.

A French soldier placed half a dozen of potatoes at the bottom of a cask, upon a layer of sand and fresh earth, three or four inches thick when the stalks had risen a few inches, he bent them down, and covered them four or five inches deep with the same mixture. He continued this operation till the cask was full. Six or seven months after, upon emptying the vessel, (which stood in a court yard,) he found that the half dozen potatoes had produced an enormous quantity of new ones, from the portions of the mother stems which had been successively laid down and covered.—*Journal des Connais, Usuels*, 1829.

AMERICAN SILK.

A case of raw silk, from the filature of D' Homergue, in Philadelphia, was put on board the packet ship *De Rham*, which sailed from New York for Havre, on the 15th inst. Similar shipments are said to have been made to England and Mexico.

From all that has been of the superior quality of American raw silk, when compared with any other, and also of Mr. D'H s knowledge of the best mode of producing it and preparing it for market, there can be no reasona ble doubt that these shipments are to be regarded as important epochs in the history of American cultivation; as leading the way to the development of a new and incalculably valuable source of private and publicwealth.

DIVERSITY OF TEMPERATURE.

The following theory of the cause of the difference of temperature which prevails upon the Eastern and Western shores of the continent of North America, is from an article by Professor Mitchell in the last number of Silliman's Review:

The Rocky Mountains stretch from the table land of Mexico into the immediate vicinity of the polar sea. Throughout their whole extent, they nowhere descend much below the region of perpetual congelation, and in many places they ascend far into it.

The northern extremity of these mountains, lat. 70 deg., was seen by Captain Franklin, covered with snow in the beginning of August. The accounts obtained of intermediate points, are such as to create a belief that they are still more elevated.

Over this lofty barrier, a cause as constant as the revolution of the sun, is urging the air from the west, and (if the views taken in this communication of the specific manner in which this cause operates are correct) urging especially the upper strata of the atmosphere. But however this may be, it is at least certain, that only the upper strata can pass. I may add that the lower strata *do not* pass, for if they did they would not melt the snow. The air which has had a mild temperature, communicated to it on the bosom of the Pacific, is stopped and a deluge of air having a temperature never elevated much above 32 deg., and often depressed very far below it, is poured over upon the region on the east side of the mountains, from the icy sea, quite down to Mexico. This air imbibes heat from the soil of the eastern part of the continent, and continuing its course, carries it off over the Atlantic. This country therefore communicating heat to the prevailing winds, and receiving none from them, has its temperature depressed. This cold deluge must exist and produce the effects ascribed to it, unless a law of nature, which we have shown to obtain in other parts of the globe, is arrested in the case of North America. Its existence is also proved by observation, made in the immediate neighborhood of the mountains, where westerly winds are found to have a greater predominance than in the regions farther east.

This then is a particular, in which the eastern side of North America, differs widely from the western coast of both America and Europe, and the person who has witnessed the change of temperature, produced by our N. West winds, in a single night, or read of the effects of certain winds in other countries,—of the Sirocco, for instance, in Italy,—will not be disposed to deny that it is fully adequate to the production of the low medium temperature of North America. The vast elevated plateaus, and enormous ridges of Central Asia, stand in the same relation to China, that the Rocky Mountains do to the United States. It is stated that the greatest cold experienced at Pekin, occurred during the prevalence of a wind from the north west. In Japan "in winter the north and north west winds are exceedingly sharp, and bring along with them an intense frost." Malte Brun.

SAVING.

It is related that a gentleman once called upon Guy, the Miser, for a lesson of frugality—Guy, extinguishing the light, said "we can talk this matter over in the dark."

THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, JAN. 29, 1831.

CARD.

The editors of the Genesee Farmer feel under obligations to the public for the patronage their paper has received thus far, and are happy to find among the contributors to its columns, some of the most scientific men of our state, together with assurances from them that they approve of the undertaking and will continue their contributions as time serves. We also invite all practical men, who feel an interest in this method of distributing useful information, to favor us with communications respecting their several occupations, detailing in the plainest manner, any operations which they may think interesting to the public; and any enquiry they wish to make relative to the arts and sciences, they are at liberty at all times to make through this paper Any notice of improved breeds of stock, choice fruit or trees, or any new and valuable seeds, or discoveries, will be inserted, for in this manner we hope to serve the public, who we trust will favor us with their patronage.

THE AGE OF TREES.

There is no hypothesis better established, than that the concentric rings, or grains in wood are annual, and that their numbers are sure indications of the age of trees.—The rings are sometimes not continuous, and run out before they reach around the tree, they are not always uniform in thickness, and frequently vary in different sides without any fixed rule, and again certain sides have a thicker grain, constantly & uniformly, the whole length of the tree, which may be owing to some bend it took in growing, whereby the sap was hindered from descending on one side, or to the situation of large and extensive roots, attached to that particular side. By what rule the rings are formed in the tap rooted vegetables, like the beet, carrot, &c. or in the stems of the herbaceous annuals, seems as yet unexplained. We were led to these remarks by passing a few days since, a large white water oak, cut for a mill shaft; and on counting the grains, found from the pith to the bark, 503 distinct and well marked concentric rings, and it was yet to appearance fresh and green, and had only attained the vigor & man(tree)hood of its days. What mighty winds and storms, tornados and convulsions, what revolutions, what nations, and Kings and governments, has it outlived: where are the red men that counciled under its shade, or the grim warriors that ambushed behind its body—gone, gone like its own sire and grand-sire, who might have been a "saplin of sturdy growth," when the vail of the temple was rent, or have been coeval with Rome, in her "high and palmy state," the everlasting city, seated on her seven peerless hills, now condemned to be bound and fettered with bands from Baltic's farthest shore, and with unnumbered circumgirations, "cycle in Epycicle, orb in orb," to obey man's behests, who before knew none but heaven's command, tortured till the vegetable fibre cracks, and has neither life nor strength, and like all things, "yea, the gorgeous temple, and the cloud-capt towers, dissolve like the baseless fabric of a vision, and leave not a wreck behind."

FLAX.

There is no article which is the produce of our farms, over which foreign interest and ignorance have held such undisputed sway, as in the cultivation and preparation of FLAX.—During the years of 1821-2-3, there seemed a disposition on the part of our government to encourage the growth and manufacture of this article; since that time, we hear very little about it, and at this time a domestic manufactured linen shirt is as rare as a white colt, and the *distaff* and *wheel* will soon be reckoned by our young ladies as instruments belonging only to the age of chivalry.

There are several opinions with regard to flax, prevailing among us, which are incorrect.

First—That the climate and soil of the United States are not calculated to produce a good growth of flax.

Second—That flax which has been allowed to stand until the seed was ripe, is not capable of being manufactured into fine cloth.

Third—That flax is not capable of being spun by machinery.

Fourth—That spreading flax upon the ground and dew-rotting it, is the cheapest and best method.

Now we shall attempt, from our own observations, and the authority of others, to show these opinions incorrect.

As regards the quantity of flax produced pr acre in Ireland, Marshall, in his report to the Linen and Hempen Board, in 1817, gives the average quantity at 500 lbs. In receiving this estimate, and comparing it with the produce of our own soil, we must make allowance for the difference in acres, between the Irish and American: also, that their flax is water-rotted, by which it will give about twenty-five per cent more than when dew-rotted, for which see report from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitted to the Senate of the United States, January 5th, 1825, and republished 1830. In addition to this difference, flax does not waste as much in cleaning, by the Irish process, as by ours, as they merely free it from the woody part of the stalk, leaving it to be made fine by what they term dressing, which is the same as we call hatcheling. Now by looking into the records of our agricultural societies, we find that the produce of flax offered for premiums, was considerably above Mr. Marshall's estimate for Ireland. In the Ploughboy, vol. 2d, page 188, we find that the first premium was given on 772 lbs. per acre, and at page 179, a premium awarded on 619 lbs. per acre. Now, if we add to these crops fifty per cent for the difference in measure and in rotting and cleaning, we have the produce of 1040 lbs. per acre. Our own opinions are, that we have seen finer flax grown in America, than we ever saw in Ireland; but do not think our land and climate are generally as good as theirs.

The seccond erroneous opinion is, that flax that is allowed to ripen seed, is not fit for fine cloth. This point the Linen and Hempen Board of Ireland have put at rest.

Having been convinced of the superiority of the Dutch flax over the Irish, in 1822 they sent Peter Besnard, Esq. Inspector General for Leinster, Munster and Connaught, into the Netherlands, in order to ascertain the reasons for the superiority of the Dutch flax. In his report he says—

"Why so general an opinion as has prevailed in Ireland, for a series of years, that flax which gives seed is not adapted for her fine linens, should have taken place, I canot conjecture." Again, speaking of an establishment at Antwerp, he says, "I called at the manufactory and purchased a small quantity of the yarn, for the inspection of the Honourable Board, and which is sold at the rate of £47,786 13s. 4d. per ton. The yarn which I purchased, is not of the finest kind, but I have every reason to suppose, from the enquiries I made, that it was spun from flax that had *given seed*." We have had some yarn from Valenciennes, which was much finer than that alluded to above, which was made from flax which ripened seed.

As to the generally received opinion, that flax cannot be spun by machinery, it is ridiculous. The machinery is not as complicated, nor as costly, as for spinning cotton. But *dew-rotted* flax is not worth manufacturing, when that which is water-rotted can be procured. As the season approaches, we propose to give the Dutch method of managing their flax, from the time of pulling, until it is prepared for the finest of lace; and I would here observe, that a female might work one year on one or two lbs. of flax to advantage.

SHEEP.

This is an important season for farmers who would have fine wool from their sheep. During extreme cold weather, when the ground is covered deep with snow, sheep frequently suffer much in health by being fed entirely with dry food: they become costive and feverish. This never fails to *cot* the wool more or less, or as it is commonly called, they become hide-bound. This materially injures the quality and quantity of the wool. To prevent this, sheep should be fed with green food, where that is to be had, where not, boiled grains have a very good effect, and even turnips, potatoes, or carrots, are much better for them, after being boiled, and a little meal or bran, and salt being added.

Do not neglect them; remember that January and February are the most trying months for sheep. It is a mistaken notion that sheep do not want water in cold weather; let them be kept where they can get it; if they do not want it they will not drink it, as they are *temperate* animals.

WANTED IN THIS VILLAGE

FOR THE YEAR 1831.

More industry and less idleness.
More economy and less extravagance.
More honest men than rogues.
More money than credit.
More shirts than ruffles.
More morality than grog-shops.
More mechanics than dandies.
More stocking-yarn than street-yarn.
More stability than excitability.
More education than ignorance.
More laborers than loungers.
More justice and less law.
And "last not least" the Printers want
More subscribers, and the Editors want
More correspondents to the Genesee Farmer.

PROFIT BY EXPERIENCE.

It is a great misfortune that mankind do not profit more by the experience of those who have gone before them. This observation will apply to agriculture as well as politicks.—But in both, we see men doing those things which a slight examination of the acts of past ages, would satisfy them were not profitable; and leaving undone many things which would result in the happiness of mankind, as well as for the interest of individuals. We are very apt to think that the ages which have preceded us, were ignorant, compared with the present; therefore we do not think it worth our time to examine, with a view to profit by the past.—But let us remember that one of the wisest of mankind has said, that "there is no new thing under the sun." "Is there any thing whereof it may be said, see, this is new? It hath been already of old time, which was before us." This was a declaration, made nearly three thousand years since, by a man who wrote as much, perhaps, upon natural history, botany, and those thing immediately connected with agriculture, as any man has done since. He was also a practical man, for he says, "I made me great works; I builded me houses: I planted vineyards; I made me gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all *kind of fruits*; I made me pools of water to water therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees; I got me servants and maidens, and had servants born in my house; also I had great possessions of *great and small cattle*, above all that were in Jerusalem before me; I gathered me also silver and gold and the peculiar treasure of kings, and of the provinces; I got the men-singers and women-singers, and the delights of the sons of men, as musical instruments, and that *of all sorts*."—Of him it is said in Kings, "and he spake of the trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon, even to the hysop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes." Now when we consider that such knowledge has preceded us three thousand years, we must either allow that the march of improvement has been slow, or that we have profited very little by the experience of past ages. The only excuse that can be offered for us is, the destruction that has been made of the records of past experiments. This, to-be-sure, may be offered for the first two thousand years; but what apology can be offered for the slow progress of agriculture for the last thousand years. I know of but one that can be used, and that is, our agriculturists *do not read enough* concerning their profession, and we are glad to witness at this time, something that looks as if our state legislators were taking into consideration the subject of the education of the agricultural class of community, as well as for other professions. When we compare the importance of agriculture with professions, and the reading attending both, we must acknowledge that they are in an inverse ratio to their rational importance.

It has been remarked, that agriculture was confined to an humble class of citizens, who were compelled to follow it for support. During the dark ages, when learning was confined to the priests, such an observation might have been correct; but at this time it is different: we now find that men of the first acquirements are willing to pursue those innocent employments which were first taught by the Creator, "on that day when he created the heavens and the earth."

London says, "the recent discoveries in chemistry and physiology, have led to the most important improvements in the culture of plants, and the breeding and rearing of animals; agriculture is in consequence no longer an art of labor, but of science; hence the advantage of scientific knowledge to agriculturists, and the susceptibility of the art of progressive advancement." "Agriculture," Marshall observes, "is a subject which viewed in all its branches, and to their fullest extent, is not only the most important, and the most difficult in rural economies, but in the circle of human arts and sciences."

SLIPS.

Ladies who are fond of green house plants, and have it in their power to procure slips of various kinds, will find a great benefit, and a most certain preventive of failure, particularly either in a warm room in winter, or a warm sun in summer, by covering their slips with bell glasses, or where they cannot be procured, with tumblers, or any kind of glasses that will admit light, observing to admit air, at least one hour each day, and not keep the slips too wet, as it has a tendency to rot them before they strike root, or have leaves to carry on evaporation. By this process, hardly any single instance of a plant has been known to fail. In setting slips, it is important to clip nearly all the leaves, else there is too great a call for sap ere it has rooted. An ounce of saltpetre, or a spoonful of chloride of lime, in a gallon of water, is a great quickener of vegetation, and at once shews its beneficial effects.

TO CONVEY LIVE FISH.

As there are many natural, as well as artificial ponds that are destitute of the most valuable kinds of fish, and from the rapidity with which fish are increased, it frequently becomes an object to transport them alive, for the purpose of stocking such waters. Winter is the most favorable season for this purpose. Although fish are fond of cold water, yet when the temperature is reduced to 32 degrees, they become almost torpid—their motions are very slow, and they do not require the same quantity of water for a given time, that they do in warm weather. Now, as long as snow or ice when mixed with water, will remain unthawed, it indicates the temperature of thirty two degrees. Therefore, let a cask of sufficient size be provided, and filled with snow or ice, and water, into which put the fish, intended to be transported, as soon as caught. It is not necessary that the water should be entirely filled with ice or snow, (the latter is preferable) only to keep a sufficient quantity in the cask to insure the temperature; neither should the water be allowed to freeze solid, which may be prevented by the introduction of a pailful of water occasionally from a well. In this manner, fish may be taken a distance of thirty, or fifty, or one hundred miles by land, with less trouble than any other method and with perfect safety.

THE VINE.

The following letter was received by one of the editors of the Genesee Farmer, in 1825, from our friend Horatio Gates Spafford, and although not intended for publication at that time, we think will be read with pleasure by those who feel interested in the propagation of the grape. This letter, when compared with one of recent date, from the same gentleman, published in our last, will afford conclusive evidence of his conviction, that the cultivation of the grape is of great importance; and we sincerely hope he may yet live to realize all that his zeal in the cause ever led him to anticipate, and that he may "sit under his own vine and fig tree, and there be none to make him afraid."

I am glad to perceive by thy letter of the 22d inst. that thou art still intent on the culture of the grape. Of the success, ultimately, of this culture in this country, I cannot doubt, because, wherever wild grapes grow, spontaneously, without any care from man, ripen, and in many instances produce heavy loads of fruit, the best being selected, pruned, worked with care, tied on stakes, or trained on arbors or fences, the quality would as surely be improved, and the crop increased, in this as in any other culture. By grafting, which is done more readily on the vine than on any other vegetable, and by various other means, new varieties would be produced, even from our native stocks, indigenous, always to be preferred; and we have the means of selecting from all countries, where the vine has been cultivated for thousands of years, and may soon have a few hundred rooted plants, from *cuttings* and *layers*, the product from any one favorite vine. All this requires care and labor, but just such as every man of intelligence, some science, and a love of Nature and her works, would most naturally delight in. I am very fond of this kind of amusement, and my garden is beginning to show that it is success fully bestowed, I have 8 kinds, select, besides many seedlings, kinds not yet known, all growing very prosperously, and though but the second year, producing some fruit, a charming foliage, and cheering hope with future prospects.

I rejoice to see the increasing attention to the grape culture, not only in this state but throughout the Union, wherever our Eagle is known. Disappointment must be expected, however;—for like all other business, experience must first be acquired, and, perhaps, in many instances, at a dear rate. In nothing will this be more likely to come than in large expectations from foreign grapes, some in a soil unsuitable, too new, unworked, from a climate too hot, too cold, too dry, too wet, too much neglected, for the old varieties of the vines, brought from old vine regions, will require much nursing, nice care, constant attention, and old ground, where the soil is perfectly unmixed. If we would, in every region, plant the best varieties of native grapes, from the woods around us, there would be much less danger of disappointment.

The nursery-men, dealers in the vine, have such a habit of giving new names to their vines, calling some natives by a foreign name, or a foreigner by a good name, or popular one, of the moment, that I apprehend no small difficulty from this source. All this, again, might be prevented, if we would select for ourselves. I have a fox grape, thus selected from the woods, that yields fruit in abundance, equal in strength of juice, and flavor, to the best dark colored grape grown in this state, excepting, perhaps, one kind of the Burgundy, and the Purple Frontinac. It is larger than the Purple Hamburgh, round, the size of an ounce leaden ball. But why mention this? There are thousands of such, on our hills, and many others, some of which may be even better than

this. I am selecting, from the woods, and shall bye-and-bye be ready to show the result.

The river hills of the Hudson, from N. York to Sandy Hill, will bye-and-bye have vineyards, where now we find the wild vine, & the time is coming when those hills, now thought of no value, for agricultural purposes, will yield more clear profit to cultivators, than all the alluvial land of their valley. To produce all this, I well know, must be a work of time. Our people, however, taught by *profitable experiment*, learn very rapidly, and act, greedy of gains, prompt, ever ready. This characteristic leads to excess of enterprize, sometimes ludicrous enough, but there can be little danger of raising more grapes than can be sold, or made into wine. That we can make as *good wine*, as is made in any part of the world, and from our native grapes, cultivated properly, no one can doubt, unless an obstinate dunce, or some thick-skulled animal whose interest perverts his reason. I have some bottled wine of my own making, two years old, that is good enough for any body, and so say the wine bibbers, who by-the-by are not the best judges of pure wine, such as this is. I should like to send thee a bottle.

BAROMETER

Is derived from two Greek words, which signify weight or gravity, and measure—to measure or weigh the air, more commonly termed a weather glass. It owes its origin to experiments instituted for the purpose of explaining a very mysterious phenomenon, viz: That with a common pump, water could not be raised higher than thirty feet. Much novel speculation was thrown around this curious fact, and all as explanatory of the cause, but nothing satisfartory; when suddenly, and as if by inspiration, Torricelli, a disciple of Galileo, communicate d the discovery in 1645, that the air in which we moved with perfect freedom, and which was supposed to add levity to every thing that contained it, was in fact an immense body of ponderous matter, and that notwithstanding the ease and elasticity that accompanied all our motions, and the freedom with which it was inhaled, we were constantly supporting on the surface of our bodies, the enormous pressure of nearly eleven tons.

This was pronounced gross heresy by many, while some stood aghast in wonder. Finally, all were convinced, for demonstration was easy; and many years afterwards, the experiments which proved this to be true, were the admiration and wonder of the world. Princes and Potentates were astonished at an experiment which they saw performed by Guericke of Magdeburgh, who took two hemispheres, that exactly fitted each other, and having exhausted them of air, so firmly were they connected by the pressure of the air which surrounded them, and which, to all present, seemed nothing, and less than nothing, that a force of twelve horses was scarcely sufficient to separate them. Much curiosity was excited by the development of this truth; philosophers and chemists vied with each other in the further examination of the properties of the invisible medium. It was soon suggested to the celebrated Paschal, that by ascending, the air would be found lighter, and its pressure not so great. He therefore caused a barometer to be carried to the top of a high mountain, where its extreme levity was so sensibly indicated, as greatly to astonish even himself. As they descended, the mercury rose in the tube, and when at the bottom stood as before.

The principle upon which barometers are formed is very simple, and may be illustrated by filling a tumbler with water, and covering it with a saucer, then suddenly inverting it, when it will be found that the water remains stationary in the tumbler. The pressure of air from above, is supported by the glass, and exerts no effect upon the column of water within, while it is prevented from escaping by the pressure upon the small quantity in the saucer.

If in place of the tumbler, we substitute a tube three feet in length, and for the water employ quicksilver, we have a common barometer. The mercury is employed for the obvious reason, that its great specific gravity requires a column of but thirty inches to counterpoise the air; whereas, if water were used, as many feet would be necessary to produce the same result. At the top of the column is affixed a scale, four inches in length, which for greater accuracy, is subdivided into tenths and hundredths.

At the level of the sea, the top of the mercurial column is at 30, by which is meant, that from the surface in the saucer or basin, to the top of the mercury in the tube, is thirty inches. As we ascend from this level, the mercury sinks in the tube, and on arriving at the top of the highest mountains, it falls to twenty-seven inches. Hence the altitude of any place above the level of the sea, is easily calculated by this instrument, making some deductions for changes of temperature, which however affect it but slightly.

It is found that immediately preceding violent winds and hurricanes, the mercury sinks very suddenly; sometimes even to the lowest degree on the scale, and when the storm is with us, and raging with its greatest fury, the mercury rises. All have observed the awful and prophetic stillness that betokens a mighty and not far distant commotion of the elements, and all have read of the dead calms that prevail at sea, and on land, that are soon followed by an overcasting of the sky, and which are too often the precursors of desolating earthquakes. These are the occasions when the greatest depressions are observed.

The heaviest air, and consequently the greatest elevation of mercury in the barometer is observed between tropics and in warm dry weather. It is here proper to remark that a very popular error exists among all classes of men, as to the weight of the air. It is this, that when smoke from chimnies is observed to descend to the earth, as also during the prevalence of dense fogs, the air is said to be very heavy; whereas, exactly the reverse is true. Generally, smoke and fogs are specifically lighter than air, at the earth's surface, and consequently as soon as generated, they ascend rapidly to the height of some thousand feet, till coming in contact with a rarer medium, they float promiscously, or are subject to prevailing winds; whereas, an extremely light atmosphere allows them, unoperated upon, to remain quietly below. * * *

To Correspondents.—C. D. in answer to A. B. on spontaneous vegetation, from its length, omitted till next week.

"A Young Farmer," and several others, are received and shall have prompt attention.

ROCHESTER PRICES CURRENT.

Jan. 28, 1831.

Wheat—Our market has been well supplied with this article, during the week past, and prices paid, such as to answer the expectations of the farmers. On Tuesday, there was brought in on sleighs, and sold, about fifteen thousand bushels; price—from one dollar six, to one doll. twelve and a half cents.

Ashes per 2240 lbs		Mink	12a31
Pot	$91a92 50	Raccoon	18a31
Pearl	100a102 50	Martin	25a62
Apples per bushel	25a44	Fisher	37a56
Do dried	75	Wild Cat	18a25
Bristles, comb'd per lb	20a31	Gray Fox	18a25
Beeswax do	18a20	Grass Seed per bush	62
Butter do	10a12	Hops per lb	12a15
Beef—Mess per bbl	$8a9	Honey do	09
Do prime do	5a7	Lard do	06a07
Do fresh per lb	02a03	Mutton do	02a03
Barley per bushel	38a44	Mustard Seed per bush	$4
Beans do	50a62	Oats per bush	25
Candles, mould per lb	9 cts	Old Pewter, Brass and	
Do dipped do	8 "	Copper per lb	11
Do sperm do	28 "	Peaches, dry'd bush	100a200
Corn per bushel	44a50	Pork, mess per bbl	$12a13
Cheese per lb	04a05	Do prime	8a9
Clover Seed per bush	$4 50	Do fresh per lb	03a04
Flour per bbl	5 50	Quills per 100	25a30
Flax per lb	07a08	Rye per bush	50
Flax Seed per bush	78a87	Rags per lb	03a04
Feathers per lb	31a37	Salt per bbl	$1 75
Furs—Otter	100a400	Tallow per lb	06a07
Fox, red	50a75	Wheat per bush	103a109
Fox, cross	100a200	Buckwheat flour, cwt.	$1 75

TERMINOLOGY.

The weekly insertion of our little dictionary of terms which are in general and common use with those versed in the sciences of Agriculture and Horticulture, we hope will need no excuse, as it is intended for the use of the tyro rather than the adept; and intended to render intelligible all of the subjects treated of in the course of our labors.

Perennial—growing from year to year, like the tree or shrub, the maple, rose bush, &c.

Annual—perfecting itself and its seeds in one year, as corn, salads, cucumber.

Biennial—perfecting itself in two years, as the thistle, carrot, cabbage.

Deciduous—those trees that shed their leaves in autumn—in contradistinction to evergreens.

Herbaceous—Distinguished from wood, the herb.

Esculent—eatables, vegetables, & roots.

Succulent—Juicy, abounding in juice, a pulpy leaf.

Seguminous—bearing pods, beans, peas, &c.

Farinaceous—producing flour and starch, wheat, rye.

Fusiform—Spindle shaped, tapering, as beet, carrot.

Parasite.—growing out of another plant, moss, misletoe.

From the Western Reserve Chronicle.

We had the pleasure, a few days since, of receiving a fine ripe orange, from the garden of J. P. Kirtland, accompanied with the following note:

Messrs. Editors—Accompanying this letter is a mature and full grown Orange, the production of a tree that sprung from a seed, planted in March, 1828. The seedling was budded from a fruitful stock, in the following August, and in about three weeks was headed down, near to the inoculate. This put forth a growth of four inches, the same season, and during the summer of 1829 attained the heighth of two feet, its luxuriant branches forming a spreading top. In March, 1830, *two years* from the time the seed was planted, & *nineteen months* from the insertion of the inoculate, it showed more than *one hundred and fifty* blossom-buds. During the month of May, it was literally a cluster of splendid fragrant flowers. Of the nu

merous young orang es that formed upon it, only seven were permitted to remain, each of which is now equal in size and maturity to the one I have forwarded to you.

Yours, with respect, J. P. K.

Poland Jan. 11, 1831.

"THE WAGES" OF LITEEATURE.

Our distinguished fellow countryman Washington Irving has sold the copy-rights of his life of Columbus, history of Grenada, and the abridgement of the life of Columbus for *thirty eight* thousand dollars These have all been published within the last eighteen months.—This we should think a very good remuneration, so far as money is concerned, for the efforts of genius. Mr. Cooper's last novels are said to have produced him $18,000. He receives one dollar per copy for the sales in this country.

From the Daily Albany Argus.

The annual meeting of the New York State Temperance Society, was held in the Assembly Chamber on the 18th inst. agreeable to public notice. The President, hon. Reuben H. Walworth, took the chair, and after calling the meeting to order, the Rev. B. T. Welch, of the city of Albany, addressed the Throne of Grace.

The President delivered his annual address; accompanied with a report of the proceedings of the Oneida Temperance Society. The President also read a letter from the Speaker of the House of Assembly, stating that indisposition had prevented him from participating in the proceedings of the meeting.

The meeting was addressed by O. G. Otis, esq. of the Assembly, the hon. Mr. Benton of the Senate, and B. F. Butler, esq. of this city.

The following resolution, offered by B. F. Butler, esq. was adopted by the Society:

Resolved, That the history of the Society, and the facts in its possession, justify the belief that voluntary associations for the promotion of temperance, founded on the principle of entire abstinence from the use of ardent spirits, are among the most effectual means of promoting the prosperity and honor of our country, and the good of the human race; and that we therefore earnestly appeal to every patriot and philanthropist, who has not already united himself with such an association, to do so without delay.

On motion of S. M. Hopkins, esq. *Resolved*, That the present officers of the Society be elected for another year.

Mr. Friend Humphrey resigned his office as a member of the executive committee.

Whereupon it was resolved that Mr. Joshua A. Burke, be added to that committee.

On motion of E. C. Delavan, esq. *Resolved*. That this meeting adjourn to meet in this place on the third Tuesday of January next.

Thos. Kempshall, and G. G. Andrews, esqs. delegates from the Monroe County Temperance Society, were present at the meeting.

WM. C. MILLER, Rec. Sec'y.

MURDER.

We learn from the Pennsylvania Democrat, published at Uniontown, that a man named Calvin Wood, stabbed two persons at Bridgeport, in that county, on the night of Sunday week, one of whom, William Booh, died on Friday evening. Wood who was *drunk*, had been guilty of disorderly conduct on board a steam boat then about landing at Bridgeport, for which Capt. Kimber threw him upon deck and threatened to put him overboard. Wood was about leaving the boat, when a person whose name we have not heard, while in the act of handing his cap, was stabbed by him in the abdomen. Booh, who, as well as the other person wounded, belonged to the boat's crew, followed Wood and overtook him on the plank extending from the boat to the shore. A scuffle ensued, in which Booh received the stab in the abdomen of which he died. It was not until afterwards, it was discovered that a similar wound had been inflicted on the other person referred to, and that Capt. Kimber's watch chain (a ribbon) had been cut off by an attempt to stab him in the same manner. Wood has been committed for trial.

DUTIES ON CUSTOMS.

The duties on Imports collected at the port of New York, for the last five years were as follows, namely:

In 1825, total amount,	$15,742,100 41
1826	11,525,864 22
1827	13,217,695 89
1828	13,745,147 21
1829	13,052,676 46
1830 (estimated)	13,000,000 00

Being an average annual revenue collected at the port of New York alone (from 1825 to 1829 inclusive) of $13,458,696 41, or more than one half of the duties collected in the whole Union in each of the respective years. The duties on Customs collected in the whole Union, were—

In 1825, total amount,	$20,098 713 45
1826	23,341,331 77
1827	19,712,283 29
1828 (say)	21,500,000 00
1829	22,681,965, 91
1830 (estimated)	21,756,707 37

Comment on this is unnecessary; the statement will speak for itself, of the great business in foreign trade, transacted in this city.

ONE DAY LATER FROM EUROPE.

Halifax papers received at Boston have furnished English dates to the 11th December. These accounts confirm the last opinion that there would *not* be a general war among the European powers. This is ascribed to the recent change of Ministry in England, and their prompt declaration of their determination to maintain the principle of non-intervention.—The incendiary outrages throughout the country had nearly ceased. The active and efficient measures adopted by the authorities had been very beneficial, and would in all probability restore quiet and good order.

The cause of Parliamentary reform was rapidly gaining strength, and must inevitably be carried by an irresistible force. Meetings have been held in several of the large towns at which petitions for reform were carried with acclamations.

Accounts from Copenhagen state that an expedition had succeeded in reaching the eastern coast of Greenland, where a Norwegian colony had settled eight centuries ago, and to whom all access had been barred by ice. They still maintain the Christian religion, and speak the Norwegian language of the tenth century.

A majority of nearly all classes of the citizens of Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent, and Liege, are said to be in favor of the accession of the Prince of Orange or one of his sons.

It is rumored that a wide breach exists between his Majesty's government and the East India Company.

It is reported that the Austrian and Spanish Ministers residing at the Court of the Netherlands have been recalled.

POOR MAN'S LOAN COMPANY.

An application has been made to the Legislature for the establishment of an association under this name and for the following objects:

1st. The principal object is to relieve the wants of the poor and necessitous, upon moderate terms, viz. by lending them money in small sums, at seven instead of 25 per cent., which they now pay.

2d. To carry this object into effect without actual loss, which is provided for by a small charge of one shilling for the certificate, and the privilege of issuing notes.

3d. To make the stock profitable, so as to induce monied men to make investments, in order to raise the necessary capital, which will be accomplished by the banking privilege.

LONG DIP.

An accident lately happened to a commercial gentleman, who, in the course of his business, had occasion to enter a soap and candle manufactory in Change Alley, London, which, as it has been unattended with serious consequences may be repeated for amusement. The gentleman alluded to was descending some steps adjoining the melting vat, when his foot slipped and he was precipitated into the agreeable liquid. A workman who was standing by, seized him as he rose: but from the unctious nature of his covering he was again consigned to the vat. A second pull extricated the sufferer, in the shape of a tremendous candle, the whole outward man being encased with tallow.—[London pa.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

for the week ending Jan. 22, 1831.

Days	Ther morn	Ther even	Barom't'r morn	Barom't'r even	Winds morn	Winds even	Weather clear	Weather clo'dy	Weather rainy	Weather high winds	Observa'ns
16	20	20	29,52	29.55	*n*	*n*		1			1 in'h snow
17	20	20	29,55	29,30	*n w*	*w*		1			
18	26	24	29,10	29,11	*w*	*n w*		1			1-2inch do
19	29	30	29,00	29, 2	*w*	*w*		1			2 1-2 do do
20	20	10	29,30	29,50	*n*	*n*		1			4 do do
21	6	11	29,44	29, 2	*e*	*s e*		1			1 1-2 do do
22	20	14	29, 5	29,10	*w*	*n*		1		1	1-2 do do

☞ *The Barometrical and Thermometrical observations are registered at* 10 *o'clock A. M. and P. M., which by a long series of experiments made for the purpose, show* that *time to give the nearest mean average of the relative heat of a day than any other time.*

On the morning of the 21st the Themometer stood 2 degrees below Zero, which was the coldest day at Sunrise this season.

This month has been one of continued cold, almost without intermission, and though we have often colder days, yet the steadiness of the frost is almost without parallel.

BANK NOTE TABLE.

Corrected Weekly for the Rochester Daily Advertiser.

BY C. W. DUNDAS.

NEW-YORK.
All banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Washington & Warren, Barker's Exchange, Franklin Bank, Middle Dist., Columbia, Greene County, Marble Manuf. Co., Plattsburgh, and Niagara.

MASSACHUSETTS.
Al banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Farmers' b'nk of Belchertown, Sutton, Berkshire, Essex and Brighton banks.

VERMONT.
All banks in this state, *par.*

RHODE-ISLAND.
All banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Farmers' Exchange, and Farmers' & Mechanics' banks.

CONNECTICUT.
All banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Eagle, Eagle pay'ble at Union bank New-York, Derby, and Derby payable at Fulton bank New-York.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.
All banks in this state, *par.*

MAINE.
All banks in this state, *par.* except the following
Broken Banks. Castine, Wiscasset, Hallowell & Augusta, Kennebec, and Passamaqnoddy banks.

NEW-JERSEY.
State b'nk, & Trenton Banking Company, *par*
All other banks, 2 *per cent*, except the following
Broken Banks. Salem & Phil. Manuf. Co., Monmouth, Hoboken and Grazing Co., N. Jersey Manuf. & Banking Co. at Hoboken, State Bank at Trenton, Protection and Lombard, and Jersey City.

PENNSYLVANIA.
Philadelphia Banks, *par.*
All other banks, 2 *per cent*, except the following
Broken Banks. Farmers' & Mechanics' at N. Sa., Centre, Huntington, Meadville, Marietta, Juniata, Greencastle, Bedford, Beaver, Washington, Uniontown, Agricultural, Sil. Lake, Westmoreland at Greenburgh, New-Hope Bridge Co. new emission, and Brownvile banks.

OHIO.
All banks, 4 *to* 6 *per cent*,

MICHIGAN.
All banks, 2 *per cent*, except the following
Broken Banks. Monroe, and Detroit.

CANADA.
All banks, 2 *to* 3 *per cent*, except the
Upper Cana. at Kingston, and Unchartered banks.

☞ *The above table when speaking of* foreign *Bills, refers to those of* $5, *and over, as none of a less denomination are receivable.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

WINE.

The celebrated Hoffman considered wine a universal medicine. He recommended it for weakness of the stomach, obstructed liver, flatulence, stone and gravel, depression, and all the infirmities of age. An old French writer describes the Germans as a melancholy people, which disposition he attributes to the want of this beverage. Fermœlius says that "wine is to the human body what manure is to trees—it forces the fruit but injures the trees" and therefore it is argued that as a gardener only applies manure when it is wanted, so wine should only be used when needed.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF WOOL.

M. *Montbret* has presented a memoir to the Paris Academy of Sciences, on this subject. He states, that the nourishing fluids are naturally distributed between the flesh, the fat, and the wool of the sheep. He recommends frequent shearings when the animal is young, whereby these fluids are determined in greater abundance towards the skin. This increases the quantity and improves the quality of the wool.

BLUE COLOR.

The following is given as a method of extracting a blue color from the straw of buck wheat. The straw should be gathered before the grain is quite dry, and placed on the ground in the sun, until it becomes sufficiently dry to be taken from the husks with facility. The wheat having been removed, the straw is piled up, moistened and left to ferment till it is in a state of decomposition, when it will become of a blue color; this indicates the period when it should be gathered and formed into cakes, which are to be dried in the sun or in a stove. On these cakes being boiled in water the water assumes a strong blue color, which will not change either in water or in Sulphuric acid. It may, however, be turned into red with alkali, into a light black with bruised gall nuts, and into a beautiful green by evaporation. Stuffs dyed blue with this solution, which is to be used the same way as vegetable matters of a similar species employed in dying, become of a beautiful and durable color.

INFLUENCE OF TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

It is known from the official returns, that the *domestic distilled spirits* in the city of New York, amounted in 1828, to 111,504 casks; in 1829, to 79,913; being 31,591 casks less in 1829 than in 1828; say near 40 per cent. more in 1828 than in 1829.

From official returns, the inspection of *foreign spirits* in the city of New York in 1828, amounted to 2,925,705 gallons; in 1829, to 1,695,868, being a falling off of 1,229,937 gallons—the importations of 1828 exceeding those of 1829 of rising 75 per cent.

It is calculated from the returns, that in 1829 the diminution of foreign spirits, passing through the city of New York, for domestic consumption, amounted to 1,471,718 gallons, costing at the wholesale price as many dollars. Of domestic spirits, the diminution has been about two millions of gallons, worth at first cost at least $500,000—the whole, making a saving to the community of about *two millions of dollars* at the *wholesale prices;* but at the *retal price*, as generally dealt out, who can estimate the saving? When we look at this return, and at the lessened use of this wretched staff, may we not be permitted to ascribe to this change of habits in our state, the unexampled prosperity which prevails throughout every branch of industry?—*Albany Argus.*

MAMMOTH CHRYSTAL.

In Moretown, on Onion river, among the Green Mountains, has been found a chrystal of smoky quartz, weighing 110lbs.. most of it of *first water.* This chrystal is a six-sided prism, very regularly formed, having one end terminated by a six-sided pyramid, surface generally smooth, and angles well defined, and being so transparent, that large letters may, in some directions, be read through it. The sides of the prism are parallelograms, transversely striated, varying in length from 8 to 10 inches, and in breadth from 5½ to 7. The circumference of the prism, at the end next to the termination, is 2 feet 11 inches, at the other end, 3 feet. When this chrystal stands erect, it is 20 inches high. It is now in the cabinet of Rev. T. A. Merrill of Middlebury. *Vt. Chron.*

MACKEREL FISHERY.

The Hingham Gazette gives a statement of the Mackerel fishery carried on from that port, during the last ten years. In 1821 only 27 vessels were engaged in the business, and only 10,875½ bbls. were packed. Since that time there has been a gradual increase of vessels engaged and business done up to the last year, in which 64 vessels were employed, and 44,878½ bbls. packed. The increase of busi from 29 to 30 amounts to 10,147½ bbls. Upwards of 8000 hogsheads of salt were consumed in the business.

COLONIZATION.

A society hss been formed in the city of New York, auxiliary to the American Colonization Society, and the following gentlemen selected as its officers:

William A. Duer, *President.*

Vice Presidents.

Walter Bowne, Abraham Van Ness, Ogden Edwards, John T. Irving, William Colga, Nathan Bangs.

Ira B. Underhill, *Recording Secretary.*
John W. Mulligan, *Corresponding Sec'y.*
Moses Allen, *Treasurer.*

The following resolution passed:

Resolved, That whereas the expense of colonizing in Africa the annual increase of the whole colored population of the United States will not exceed *one million of dollars*, or about *ten cents* each, if divided among the citizens of New York to imitate the example of other communities which have contributed in that proportion to the funds of the American Colonization Society.

CENSUS OF NEWHAMPSHIRE.

The census of this state amounts to 267,533! making an increase during the last ten years of 25,372. The number of white males 131,800, white females 137,511; free colored persons 623. Foreigners not naturalized 400.

MILITARY FORCE OF THE STATE.

The following account of the number of militia tn this state is taken from the annual report made by M. H. Webster, the acting Adjutant General.

Horse Altillery	1,816
Cavalry	3,814
Artillery	12,803
Infantry (including Light Infantry and Riflemen)	166,614
Companies of Artillery, &c. attached to Infantry for inspection	1,763
Total	138,610

SILLIMAN'S JOURNAL.

The January number of this Journal, completing the nineteenth volume, has been published, and issued to its patrons. It contains thirteen articles on various subjects relating to Natural Philosophy, Natural History, Mechanical Philosophy, &c. &c., all of which, it is said, ably sustain the well-earned and extensive reputation of this invaluable work.

INTERESTING TO THE LADIES.

The Journal of Health strongly recommends simple soap and water, as the best wash for preserving the complexion, instead of the thousand varieties of cosmetic lotions, which are so much used. There are five beautifiers of the skin, viz:—personal cleanliness, regular exercise, temperance, pure air, and cheerful temper. Let all pouting beauties ponder on this. The Journal puts its *veto* on the use of distilled liquor, Cologne water, &c. and insists that, to use them for a wash, is to destroy the suppleness, transparency and smoothness of the skin, and to cover it with unseemly blotches.

TRIAL OF JUDGE PECK.

The testimony in this case was closed on the 11th inst. and the counsel for the respondent announced that they would commence their augment on the next day. Thus it seems this matter which has consumed nearly a month and a half of a short session, is now in in way to be closed. When we consider that there is a great mass of business to be done at this session, we can but regret that, so much time should have been occupied with this trial. We sincerely hope that but few of the U. S. Judges will ever put themselves in the way of an impeachment if like this the trial must occupy more than one third of a session of congress.

AUCTIONS.

Collins and Hannay and other booksellers of New York give notice that they will apply to the legislature, for an alteration in the auction law, so as to confine sales of personal property by auction to day-light.

A GOOD THING.

It is stated in an English paper that Mr. Donaldson, formerly connected with the *Edinburgh Advertiser*, has at his decease left a property amounting to £220,000, ($996,800) the whole of which he directed to be employed in founding and endowing a hospital for orphan and destitute children. A noble act, worthy a benefactor of the human race. Such instances of benevolence are rare, and should give to the generous donors a high rank in the records of the great and good.

AN UNNATURAL AND INHUMAN SON.

We heard a statement made from a pulpit in this city, a short time since, which made our blood run cold, and the bare recollection of which makes us shudder. What monsters men can make of themselves! It was stated by the speaker, and in a manner to leave no doubt of his sincerity, that he had recently been called to minister to the necessities of an aged female who lay in an entry or passage to a garret, the light to which was only admitted by removing two shingles in the roof. Her neighbor a female, who was a little more favored than herself by having a room in the garret, was the only friend to whom she could call for assistance, and she was merely able to crawl occasionally to her side to hand her a cup of cold water, which a high fever made an invaluable blessing. Yet this poor, helpless and aged woman, is the widow of a merchant who once traded on a capital of near half a million of dollars, and whose son is at this time an eminent and flourishing merchant, rolling in splendid affluence in a neighboring city. We regret that the name of the unfeeling wretch was not mentioned; such monsters should be held up to the abhorrence and execration of mankind.—*Phil. Sat. Bulletin.*

COUNTERFEITERS.

The bills of the Greenwich bank, which has just commenced discounting, have already been counterfeited. At this rate counterfeit bills will soon be put in circulation before the genuine ones.